

Calcoin

News



FALL, 1994

Volume 48, Number 4

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EDITORIAL

Russell Stolling
CSNA R-5587



It is with humility (and some trepidation) seasoned with respect for my predecessors that I accept the honor of editorship of Calcoin News. Many have inquired as to what my plans are. Will we continue to see all of our usual authors and features? Will the magazine change in appearance? Let me emphasize that, at this point only the editorship has changed. Calcoin News will continue to be the publication that has won top honors in its class for the past two years. Any changes will be evolutionary, not revolutionary. Thanks for a job well done, and congratulations to Dr. Regan Shea on having again won the Best Regional Publication, proclaimed so by the ANA.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DAVID W. LANGE
CSNA R-4304



Rather than selecting a particular theme for this address, I'd rather touch on a number of topics which come to mind. Firstly, I'd like to make a few observations regarding the recent American Numismatic Association Convention at Detroit in the hope that we can use both its strengths and weaknesses in improving next year's gathering at ANAheim, a convention sponsored by the CSNA.

The Detroit show was held under somewhat awkward circumstances. The host city was boycotted by a number of dealers on the grounds that it was infamous for its crime rate. As I anticipated, crime was not a problem for myself nor for the others with whom I spoke. Attendees were perhaps more conscious of the need for caution, yet the Detroit police were everywhere to be seen, going so far as to park outside the host hotels for the safety of visitors. As is usually the case with most cities, the crime problem for Detroit is based primarily within inner-city residential areas, rather than within its downtown center. The greatest deterrent to enjoying Detroit's downtown is its look of economic blight and abandonment. The weekday morning commute in Detroit looks like most cities on a Sunday in winter. One would have to go out of one's way to get hit by a car.

Attendance at this show was clearly down from the prosperous convention held at Baltimore last summer. Coming on the heels of the disappointing spring convention at New Orleans, this represents two strikes in a row for the ANA. Both cities are ones for this organization to avoid in selecting future conventions. I don't believe that the highly publicized crime problem in Detroit accounts for the poor attendance by collectors. Although most of my usual out-of-town acquaintances could be found at this show, I suspect that the local population was somewhat under-represented. This was certainly a product of economic conditions in the immediate area. It's no secret that Detroit has been devastated by the decline of the American automobile industry and heavy industry in general. As an enthusiast of urban architecture, I was amazed by some of the wonderful examples dating from Detroit's heyday of the 1920's. Still, I couldn't help comparing these largely vacant structures to those of ancient Rome or Greece, magnificent in their ruin.

While ANAheim and surrounding Orange County are not particularly noted for crime, I do have some concerns for the area's economic health. It's apparent to me that California as a whole and its southern part in particular have not responded to the nation's alleged economic recovery. Of the last several Long Beach coin shows, the most recent in June was the first that I can recall as having seemed upbeat. This could have been either a general sign of improvement or an anomaly which may not be repeated. While there's little we can do about the economic situation, we will have to work that much harder at drawing attendance to our convention. Southern California, along with New York City and its environs, has been a traditional hotbed of numismatic trading, and we will want to talk up the virtues of our show to every member of every coin club in the state.

One complaint heard frequently at the Detroit ANA Convention was with respect to the long and confusing walk from bourse room to meeting rooms. With the exception of the Numismatic Theater, conveniently located at the top of the escalator, nearly every meeting had more than the usual number of late arrivals due to a maze-like layout. This is a matter to be addressed in selecting meeting spaces at ANAheim.

Perhaps the greatest strength of the recent show at Detroit was the attitude of its sponsor, the Michigan State Numismatic Society, and of the society's individual members. The convention was quite well organized, and the convention committee very cordial. We must remember during the next several months that we are all ambassadors of the CSNA and that our attitude with respect to potential convention-goers will play a big role in determining the success of our show. Bear this in mind while attending the Golden State Coin Show at Los Angeles and the CSNA Convention at San Jose. This reminds me that I wish to thank the persons who manned the CSNA's future convention table at Detroit. Among the faces most often seen were those of Bill and Freddie Grant, Al and Ginny Hall, Marian Sinton and, of course, Tom Fitzgerald. Al and Dorothy Baber were also on hand, although Dorothy's commitment to the ongoing ANA Convention precluded her from spending time at the future convention table.

There have been further developments in the Old San Francisco Mint situation. The museum was granted an eleventh hour reprieve on August 2, having previously been scheduled to close later that same week. It is open as of this writing and will likely remain so at least through the end of this year. A Public Works grant of \$18 million is now passing through Senate committees and will probably be approved by the full U. S. Senate for Fiscal Year 1996, which commences October 1, 1995. This falls \$10 million short of the total deemed necessary for the complete seismic and life-safety upgrading of the Old Mint and its retrofitting as a state-of-the-art museum. Senator Barbara Boxer has asked the Mint advisory committee's engineer, John Rutigliano, to look into ways of achieving the desired goal within the budgeted amount. No conclusions had been drawn at the time this was being written.

On another front, a commemorative coin bill drafted by Beth Deisher, Don Kagin and myself was introduced into the Senate on July 21 by Senator Diane Feinstein and calls for the coining of one million silver dollars and one million half dollars. The proceeds of such sales, should the bill pass, will be turned over to The Old Mint Corporation. This is a legal entity known more congenially as Friends of the Mint. As you know from my past addresses, I share the concern of many in the hobby over the mindless proliferation of commemorative coins. Still, I entered into this program with a clear conscience, as both the subject and the receiving organization are of particular interest to numismatists, a first for any U. S. commemorative program. Although I'm hoping for the successful passage of this bill, what I've seen of the legislative process thus far gives rise to grave concerns for both the future of our coinage and for the nation itself.

Lastly, I'd like to wish new Editor Rus Stolling success with this, his first issue. I've had the good fortune to be friends both with Rus and his predecessors, Virginia Hall and Regan Shea. Having edited a publication myself in the past, I know that it can be both frustrating and rewarding. Although I didn't anticipate having three editors during the course of my single presidential term, I can see that there are clearly advantages to having a periodic turnover. New challenges bring with them new enthusiasm, and we the readers are the ultimate beneficiaries of this renewal. In little more than a year as editor, Regan managed to earn Calcoin News yet another publication award from the American Numismatic Association. This will go alongside the many garnered by Ginny Hall, as well as those which yet await new editor Rus Stolling.

REPORT ON THE DETROIT ANA SHOW

CSNA's CALCOIN NEWS WINS FIRST PLACE AWARD FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR!

BY Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald

Some dealers and other "doom and gloom" hobbyists had predicted dire consequences if the ANA Convention preceded as planned in Detroit. We were warned of high crime rates, unsafe streets and so much fear that business would be depressed. Well, the convention is now history and we had no reports of crimes, no muggings or robberies (one could not make the same statement regarding Baltimore) and the show, in this writer's opinion, was very successful. The planning by the various law enforcement agencies and the ANA seemed to work to perfection. The presence of the very courteous and helpful Detroit police was impressive. By the way, this reporter will not give the name of one CSNA officer who received a ride one night in the Detroit Police Department's "Paddy Wagon." No name shall be revealed but she is our Treasurer! And the weather cooperated too; sunny, mild days, cool evenings and no rain once the show got underway.

The CSNA booth, provided by the ANA to invite folks to next summer's show in Anaheim, was most attractive thanks in a large part to Kay Lenker who hauled most of the items to Detroit in her camper. Many of our members acted as hosts as we promoted the show. See this issue's CSNA/ANAheim 1995 column for more details.

Once again (the 2nd consecutive year) our own CALCOIN NEWS was named the best regional publication. Congratulations go to Regan Shea as he carried on the proud heritage of this magazine. Virginia Hall, our editor emeritus, accepted the award on behalf of Regan who could not attend.

It was reported during the convention that the ANA Board of Governors "postponed" action on term limits and the question of more than one family member serving on the board at the same time.

The Numismatic Ambassador's Breakfast was a gathering of CSNA ambassadors including Al, Larry and Dorothy Baber, Kay Lenker, Al and Virginia Hall, David Lange, Clyde Hubbard and Tom Fitzgerald. If I missed anyone, please accept my apologies.

EXHIBITS There were several outstanding exhibits in Detroit. A Large Cent Collector from Florida displayed a complete Variety Set of Large Cents (every Sheldon, Newcomb, and a number of "non collectibles") from 1793 through 1857. One may never have the opportunity of seeing such an exhibit again as it is becoming virtually impossible to form such a collection. The Franklin Mint's sponsored exhibit, "The New Medal", featured truly magnificent works by America's leading artists including this year's ANA Award winner in Medallion Sculpture, Don Everhart II, from West Chester PA. We were proud to have Alex Shagin's works included--he has done the art work for next year's ANA Anaheim medal. Our CSNA Treasurer, Kay Lenker won a 2nd place award for her exhibit of Maria Theresa coins. Board member William Grant received his 25 year medal during the week and President David Lange was greeted at the author's table.

HIGHLIGHTS: The Convention included a number of outstanding educational programs featuring world famous numismatists, The Bureau of Engraving and Printing's "Billion Dollar Exhibit" featuring an uncut sheet of \$10,000 bills, the Mint's new commemorative coins honoring veterans, a presentation of the Commemorative Coin Citizen's Advisory Committee, the popular "World Series of Numismatics", and the numismatic theater.

WORLD MINTS: The World's Mints were an important part of the show. This year 25 (Only 11 last year) world mints or numismatic offices were in attendance from Andorra to the Vatican.

PERSONALITIES: As has been customary, many "numismatic" personalities were part of the festivities. Included were new mint director Philip Diehl, United States Treasurer Mary Ellen Withrow, and money "artist" J.S.G. Boggs as well as past Mint Director Donna Pope. Yuri V. Kumov, leading Russian numismatist, was in Detroit as guest of Chet Krause.

BANQUET: The splendid Banquet on Saturday evening built around the theme "ANA Grand Prix Repast" included a Glenn Smedley Memorial Award to Donald L. Carmody, husband of ANA Governor Helen. Lifetime achievement awards were presented to George D. Hatie, Chester Krause, and John Jay Pittman. ANA's most prestigious award, the Farran Zerbe Memorial Award was presented to ANA Past President and Governor, Florence M. Schook who will soon take up residence in Las Vegas. This reporter will say nothing about the hotels.

The ANA Convention is truly a one-time-per-year event. There is nothing to compare. Next summer it will be in our state. I hope no one misses this opportunity-- it will be a special event.

GREETINGS AND GOOD NEWS

On behalf of my husband, G. Lee Kuntz. who had triple bypass surgery on July 6, 1994:

We wish to thank all our friends within the Numismatic Associations for their get-well cards, phone calls, and concern for my husband's health.

Lee is on the road to recovery and hopes to see many of you soon.

Kindly, Joyce Kuntz

ALEX SHAGIN - CALIFORNIA ARTIST

by Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald

Alex Shagin was, at one time, the leading staff designer at the Leningrad (today St. Petersburg) Mint under the now defunct Soviet Union. While working for the mint, he designed several very important coins and medals including six of the Soviet Union Olympic coins for the summer games of 1980 in Moscow and the official "Apollo-Soyuz" medals given to American astronauts during their visit to the Soviet Union.

The idea of leaving Russia in order to gain artistic freedom of thought, speech and creation grew over a number of years. From 1974, Soviet Jews had begun to receive invitations from Israel to resettle there and by 1975, Mr. Shagin received such an invitation. Then in September, 1977, a display of works by young Leningrad artists was organized by the Soviets and several, including Alex Shagin, were selected to accompany the exhibit on a tour to Poland. While in this country, Mr. Shagin was so impressed by the freedom enjoyed by the Polish artists that he determined to leave Russia.

Upon his return to Leningrad, Mr. Shagin formally applied for an exit visa and, not surprisingly, was summarily dismissed from his position at the mint. He settled in Los Angeles and he now maintains his studio in nearby Santa Monica.

Since coming to California, Mr. Shagin has designed a large number of medals and plaques honoring individuals and commemorating events and anniversaries. Many of them have honored those who've fought against tyranny, oppression, and racism. Included are works honoring Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa, Soviet dissidents Andrei Sakharov and Alexander Solzhenitsin, and a medal in tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In addition he has had commissions from various institutions, organizations, and corporations for works honoring such great men as Albert Einstein, Mark Twain, Amadeus Mozart, George Orwell, Christopher Columbus, George Washington, Pope John Paul II and many more.

This is the first of a series of articles about this California artist, his life, achievements, and works. He is of special importance to the California State Numismatic Association as he executed the art work for the forthcoming 1995 ANA Convention hosted by the CSNA.



Alex Shagin's medal honoring Polish labor leader, Lech Walesa

CSNA / ANAheim 1995

Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald, General Chairman

Our booth at the Detroit ANA Convention was very attractive and successful. Kay Lenker hauled several boxes of "stuff" to Detroit. The banner was hung at the top of the backing of the booth and could be seen from the other end of the bourse. We had wooden nickels and "finger presses", information about hotels and attractions in Anaheim, pictures of the '95 medal, videos of Curly Mitchell, Charles Kappen, and the city of Anaheim, plus two great posters by Don Foster (our exhibit chairman) that told everyone to "Go West, Young Man!", an album of our CSNA bronze medals and much, much more.

Marlen Lenhert stamped the finger presses with a rubber stamp by hand and they were on the visitor's and dealer's badges throughout the convention hall. Mr. Lenhert also made badges that read "ANAheim '95" for those working behind the table to wear.

Special thanks to Cele and Larry Baber, Charles Colver, Bill and Freddie Grant, Al and Ginny Hall, Kay Lenker and Marian Sinton for serving as hosts and hostesses at the booth. We met and talked to many, many people and hope to see every one of them next summer in Anaheim

Ginny Hall and Freddie Grant have offered to prepare and place a special exhibit in Anaheim of all the CSNA medals. The exhibit will be non-competitive - its sole intent being to show the rest of the world our beautiful medals. We will be discussing a hospitality room and a booth on the bourse floor at the next meeting of the CSNA Board.

When we meet with Ruthann Brettell in September, Jim and Ellen Hunt, Activities Committee chairpersons, will begin to finalize plans for tours during the ANA Convention. Ethel Lenhert will meet with the hotel sales staff to select a banquet menu. Plans are moving forward nicely.

We hope that after the first of the year the local clubs will begin to discuss their participation in the '95 Convention. There are a lot of interesting possibilities. Assistant General Chairman Kay Lenker and I will be glad to speak to clubs about the convention, their possible participation, and the many opportunities to enjoy and be a part of the show.

After the first of the year, our committee chairmen will be forming their committees, starting with Pre-Registration, Registration, and Exhibits. If you can help, as an individual or as a club, even if only part-time, please let us hear from you.

California's Pleistocene Life Commemorated in CSNA Medallion

Within the City of Los Angeles, and only seven miles west of the Civic Center, lies one of the world's richest deposits of ice age fossils. These fossil deposits provide an incredibly complete record of the many different types of plants and animals that lived between 4,000 to 40,000 years ago in the area we now call the Los Angeles Basin. Fossils in these Pleistocene beds range from fern imprints to skeletons of woolly mammoths.

Geological records of this area within the Los Angeles area, often called the La Brea Tar Pits, hold suspended in time the diversity of Ice Age life in Southern California.

Evidence of past life forms include pollen, seeds, leaves, wood, clam and snail shells, insects, frogs, snakes, turtles, birds and animals large and small. More than 565 species of ancient life have been found and classified.

The medallion designed for CSNA's 94th Convention celebrates the Imperial Mammoth, one of the largest and most dominant mammals that roamed our state when the climate was so cold that glaciers covered our mountain peaks and filled our mountain valleys. The Saber Toothed Cat, the Vulture Teratornis, and the Giant Ground Sloth, also seen on the medallion's obverse, were the mammoth's daily companions in the contest for sustenance and survival. Joyce Kuntz, CSNA Medallion Coordinator, can be credited with the concept and design.

These classic medallions will be available at the Golden State Coin Show, September 30 and October 1, 1994, at the Airport Marina Hotel, Los Angeles. They may also be obtained by mail from Joyce Kuntz, CSNA Medal Coordinator, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711.



Prices for the Pleistocene medallion are:

Numbered Silver Sets, 3 Pieces	\$20.00 each plus \$1.21 postage
Single Silver Medal	\$17.00 each, plus \$0.75 postage
Oxidized Bronze Medal	\$ 3.00 each, plus \$ 0.75 postage
Golden-Bronze Medal	\$ 2.00 each, plus \$ 0.75 postage

Orders must be prepaid. Please make checks payable to
CSNA.

AU REVOIR, ALBERT AND VIRGINIA

A Special Report by Harold Katzman

August 21, 1994 marks a sad day for California numismatics. At the home of G. Lee and Joyce Kuntz, a veritable Who's Who of California numismatists gathered to bid "Farewell!" to two of the state's hardest working and dedicated numismatists -- Albert and Virginia Hall. After serving the hobby in our great state for more than two decades, the Halls have decided to leave the quiet, calm, clean atmosphere of Colton, California to relocate to the hot, bustling entertainment center of the Western Hemisphere--Las Vegas, Nevada.

"Why Las Vegas?" one might ask. The story, as told to this reporter, by a man who got it straight from Al, goes as follows: About 20 or so years ago, the Halls met some really nice folks in Las Vegas who had formed a small coin club there. The Halls initially helped with their coin shows and, as time passed, they became increasingly active in the group. The Halls had originally been considering Reno as a new home but the intense winter snows changed their minds. Meeting these new people in Las Vegas was just the ticket they needed to settle the issue. And, would you believe it, these friends have already asked Al to be their next president come election time this November!

More than sixty guests shared an afternoon at the beautiful Kuntz home to share their favorite reminiscences and to say "Good-bye" to their long time friends.

Both Al and Virginia have received nearly every major numismatic award the hobby has to offer. Their involvement in local and regional clubs is awe inspiring. What better way to more fully realize their contributions to our hobby than to read the words of fellow numismatist and friends as they speak of Al and Virginia Hall:

Jim Hunt; "will miss their expertise in judging at the San Diego Coin-O-Rama."

Bill Pannier; "They were always ready, willing, and able to help out as banquet masters of ceremonies."

Jerry Yahalom; "I am very impressed with their knowledge, abilities, organization, etc., with their numismatics. We will truly miss them."

Walter & Marie Menagetti; "We'll miss seeing them. We wish them well in their new home, but truly wish they were staying here!"

Freddie Grant; "I'll never forgive them for leaving during my presidency (at San Bernardino). Fortunately, we were able to find five or six individuals

to carry on the work they did. Virginia was the first recipient of the Fred Coops Award. Al was the second."

Bill Wisslead; "It was a pleasure knowing them. I will miss them. I hope they visit us regularly here."

Joyce and Lee Kuntz; "It was an honor and a pleasure for us to give this farewell reception. We will miss them, of course, but we can look forward to seeing them at conventions."

Don and Terry Foster; "They truly got us started in the hobby. They were always there with open arms and helping hands. They always encouraged us, be it to exhibit, or to run for office. They are two in a million."

Steve Desens; "I remember a time they came to Covina to exhibit, but on arrival, found that they had left their display at home!"

Drs. Warburton and Joyce Miller; "They are such giving people. There is nothing they won't do for others. They're super people."

Lois Mink; "I have tears coming to my eyes because they're leaving."

Dan Harley; "I have known them since they first came to town. I remember helping collect aluminum cans with them."

Phil Iversen; "Great inspiration! They got me involved in exhibiting. They were always helpful and encouraging. They helped me jump into exhibiting with both feet. It wouldn't surprise me to see in a year or two an ad for the "Silver State Coin Show."

Ethel Lenhert; "We'll all miss their expertise. They are so knowledgeable in so many things! Who will be able to fill all of those little gaps..."

Bill Grant; "I remember sharing rides to many local and regional meeting with them for over ten years. I remember all the little things and the chores they took care of that otherwise would have been overlooked or neglected. They got me going on bell collecting. They have an intense and undying love for the hobby not seen elsewhere."

Nona Moore; "... such an asset. It's Nevada's gain and our loss. It has been 25 years of friendship. How could you ask for more?"

Harold Katzman; "Inspiration is what come to mind. I remember all the help and advice they gave me on exhibiting. When I won my first 'Best of Show' they beaming with joy such that you'd have thought I was their son. They are two people I truly love."

Tom Fitzgerald; "I remember when they won the Cal State Medal of Honor. Someone said, and please forgive me, I forget who it was, at the awards banquet 'Think of what it would be like if the Halls had not come to California from Ohio.' What an impact they have had on the hobby. Virginia will always be remembered for her many years as Editor for CSNA's Calcoin News and San Bernardino's Coin Press."

These testimonials speak for themselves. On behalf of all of California numismatists, young and old, "Good Luck and God bless you both, Al and Virginia." Not good-bye, but "*Au revoir!*"



Through the

Numismatic Glass

Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald

Staff Writer

CSNA R-2074

ONE FOR THE RECORD!

At times, interesting numismatic information may be found in your local library in places most of us would never think to look. Thus, this column offers the following for your amazement and reading pleasure.

Oldest Coin - 670 BC; electrum stater of King Gyges of Lydia, in what is today part of Turkey. However, the Chinese uninscribed Spade money of the Chou Dynasty has been dated to 770 BC.

Earliest Dated Coin - MCCXXXIII (1234); The Bishop of Roskilde coins in what is today Denmark. Six are known.

Heaviest Coin - 43 LB, 7 3/4 oz: Swedish 10 daler copper plate, and dated 1644.

Lightest and Smallest Coin - 0.002 gram (14,000 to the oz): the Nepalese silver 1/4 Jawa, of 1740.

Most expensive Coin - the famous 1804 dollar, actually minted in 1834, is valued at \$1,000,000. It is a part of the famous King of Siam proof set that was presented as a gift by the US. Government in 1836. The set also included an equally rare \$10 gold coin dated 1804 and nine more coins for a total of 11 coins with a value of more than \$3,200,000. On May 28, 1990, the set, with two coins missing, was purchased by Iraj Sayah and Terry Brand. It was recently on display at the Long Beach Exposition.

Greatest Coin Collections - The highest price ever paid was \$25,235,360 for the Garrett Family collection of US. and Colonial coins which was donated to John Hopkins University. The sales were made at a series of four auctions held November 28th, 1979, and March 25-28th, 1981, at the Bowers and Ruddy Galleries. \$18,000,000 was paid for 100,484 gold coins of Norwegian, Swedish, Danish and Finnish origin from the period 1873-1926. They were purchased by Jan Olav Aamlid through Spink and Son in London in June 1988.

The most valuable coin collection formed by a single individual to be sold at public auction was the Louis Eliasberg Collection of US. gold coins. The collection, grouped into 1,074 lots, was sold by Bowers & Ruddy Galleries in New York, October 27-29, 1982, for \$12.4 million. This is also the highest total realization for a single coin auction. Eliasberg was a prominent Baltimore Banker.

Most Massive Coins - The holed stone discs used for money on the Yap Islands are the most massive coins ever known. Yap, a 38.7 square mile group of islands in the Western Pacific is part of the US. Trust Territory. The stone discs (known as Yap Stone Money) vary in size from "small change" of less than 9 inches in diameter to cartwheel-size stones 12 feet across. Even a medium-sized stone coin is valuable enough to be traded for an 18 ft. canoe or one wife!

Have you heard? There will be an special Yap Stone Money Exhibit at the August 16-20, 1995 A.N.A. Convention in Anaheim hosted by our own C.S.N.A.

Million Dollar Gold Piece - The largest souvenir gold coin was one single piece issued on March 21, 1986 for the World Exposition '86 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. It is 37 1/2 inches in diameter, 3/4 inches thick and weighs 365 pounds avoirdupois (3,123 troy oz of 14-carat gold). The gold was rented from Leach & Garner Co., of Attleboro, Mass; the coin was minted by them and, on return from Vancouver, was melted down. This writer believes this coin was, in fact, a medal.

Largest Government-Issued Gold Coin - The winner is the 1000-Mohur denomination struck in 1613 at Agra, India by the Moghul Emperor Shah Sahangir of Hindustan. His gold coin is 7 7/8 inches in diameter and weighs just over 350 troy ounces, making it equal to about 355 US. \$20 gold pieces with a face value of \$7,100 and a sheer bullion value of nearly \$265,000. Although included in an auction in 1987, the coin was withdrawn when the "reserve" of \$8.5 million was not bid.

Largest Mint - The largest one is the US. Mint in Philadelphia built in 1965-69 on Independence Mall. It covers 500,000 sq. feet with an annual capacity on a three-shift seven-day work week of 8,000 million coins. A single press can produce coins at a rated of 19,000 per hour.

Smallest Mint - This mint belongs to the smallest state in the world--the Headquarters of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem--a recognized sovereign state with less than one acre of territory within the City of Rome. The single-press mint is housed in one small room within the main building.

Largest Coin Line - A 10 mile, 5 feet, 7 inches long line of 662,353 quarters was laid edge-to-edge by 100 volunteers in Atlanta working on March 16, 1985 for the National Kidney Foundation. It was the longest and also the most valuable amassed collection, worth \$165,788.25.

A carpet of 1,945,223 one-franc Belgian coins (0.83 inches in diameter- approx. same size as US quarter) 25,384 ml 'long was laid in Geel, Belgium, by members of Mepp-Stegeta or June 25, 1988.

Most Valuable Pile of Coins - With a total value of \$126,463.61 and a weight of approximately 5 tons and consisting of 1,000,298 coins of various denominations, the pile was constructed by the YWCA of Seattle-King County Washington at Redmond, Washington on May 28, 1992 and was used for the YWCA Family Village for the homeless.

Largest Treasure Troves - 1. The record recovery in terms of gold ingots was that from the White Star Liner MS Lauren tic, which sank in 132 ft of water off Fanned Head, Donegal, Ireland, in 1917. Since 1917, 3,191 of the 3,211 gold ingots have been recovered by the Royal Navy Possum Diving Syndicate and Consortium Recovery Ltd.

2. The highest price paid for a hoard has been \$7,300,000 for 407,000 US silver dollars from the LaVere Redfield estate in a courtroom auction in Reno, Nevada on January 27, 1976 by Steven C. Markoff of A-Mark Coins of Beverly Hills, California.

3. A figure of \$2 billion of bullion has also been ascribed to the "San Jose" which sank in 700-1,200 ft of water off Columbia in 1708. Diving began in August, 1984.

4. The Irish High Court ruled on December 10, 1986, that Michael Webb, farmer of Clonmel, Tipperary, that a hoard he discovered in 1980 should be returned by the National Museum, or that he should be paid 5,225,000 Pounds instead. (A pound is worth approximately \$1.50.)

5. On July 20, 1985, two sons of Mel Fisher found the main cargo of the Spanish "Nuestra Senora de Atocha" sunk off Key West, Florida in 1622. The value of the cargo already recovered was \$80 Million, but is now expected to attain close to \$400 million mainly in silver bars. (Source - Guinness Book of World Records)

Awanda Ayers Ailing

Our beloved Corresponding Secretary Awanda Ayers has been in ill health recently. She has been in and out of the hospital. She is now out, and has been convalescing at Community Convalescent Hospital of Montclair, 9620 Fremont Ave., Montclair, CA 91710.

She would love to hear from you. Please take a minute to express your support and encourage her recovery. You may write her at her home address or at the address above. -- H.K.



NORTH of the TEHACHAPIS

By: AL LO, CSNA #5174

GLAD YOU'RE BACK, JAN!

The *Solano Silver Round Club* continues its popular World War II 50th Anniversary Medallion series with a seventh medal being "Mac Arthur's Return to the Philippines." this series began in 1989 and will continue through 1995 to commemorate significant events for the 50th anniversary of the Second World War.

Another continuing tradition is the quarterly drawing of silver rounds. June's drawing was one of the most lopsided ever held with new member GERALD SINGER winning six of the nineteen prizes and there were several triple winners. When your HOT, you're hot! Congratulations to JAN HENKE, SSCR's secretary, "Silver Notes" publisher, editor and envelope stuffer for winning the International Association of Silver Art Collectors (IASAC) 1994 convention medal design contest. It's good to hear, too, that he is successfully recuperating from his foot surgery. Keep up the good work, Jan!

EXCU-U-U-U-SE ME-E-E-!

It was *Fresno Numismatic Society's* president RUS STOLLING who went to the airwaves on Fresno's Channel 47 to promote National Coin Week in April, not the club's exemplary newsletter's editor JOHN CLIFTON, as was erroneously reported in the last *Calcoin News* edition.

Congratulations to the club's youngest member, seven year old GARTH CLIFTON, who won the July Design-A-Dollar contest! Garth took a BU Carson City Dollar as his prize. The club's past V.P. Brian Lentel took second place, and past Pres. PHIL PLETTNER's Jackie Onassis design (influenced by his wife, he says) won third. Long-past president ED HINCK has rejoined the club. Ed was president of FNS in the late 50's but has been inactive for "a while". Ed did August's program on PNC's.

If you're planning to drop in on the club, you're certainly welcome! They're still meeting monthly on the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM, but at a new location. Look for them at the Fireside Room of the University Presbyterian Church, 1776 East Roberts, west side of Cedar between Barstow and Bullard. The club's board approved memberships by mail in July, and has welcomed MIKE TURRINI as its first "long-distance" member. The club's newsletter is worth the price of membership! Contact the club c/o Rus Stolling at 1441 North Clovis Ave., Suite 41, Fresno 93727.

WELCOME, RUSSELL!

The *Fairfield Coin Club's* 5th Annual Coin and Collectibles show (Sept., 18) will

be history by the time you read this. History will be made again by the Franklin Collectors Club (FCC), when it has its first-ever meeting. FCC is a newly formed national collector's group dedicated to the Franklin Half Dollar. For more info on the club contact WALTER VINCENT, Franklin Collector's Club, 2703 Rincon Court, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87595. RUSSELL LEACH is the new treasurer, replacing JOE BLEAU who's been transferred to Bremerton, WA. A special Hot Dog Night and George Flannagan Memorial Auction was scheduled for July.. The auction is their annual fund raising event.

CONDOLENCES ...

The *Delta Coin Club* has suffered a great loss. Honorary Life Member ELDON ENZMINGER passed away in June. A past President and Vice President, Eldon will be sorely missed and long remembered as a great leader who served for many years as the club's show chairman.

A well-attended picnic was held in July. The most popular person there was LORIS ENZMINGER who brought the snow-cone making machinery the hot July afternoon event. Plans for the October 15 & 16, 1994 30th Annual Coin Show are well under way. A complete bourse well-out is expected.

HATS OFF TO CHUCK!!!

Alameda Coin Club president CHUCK WHITE's exhibit won a third place award and a \$150 prize for the club. When the club voted to split the prize with Chuck, he generously donated his share to another of his many club's, the Livermore Valley Coin Club. Now, that's generosity! Thanks, Chuck!

Members of AAC worked with the San Francisco Coin Club to put together their annual coin show on August 28th. More on that in the future. Its great to se two clubs work together so well.

SAY AH-H-H ...

The *Cupertino Coin Club's* world traveler, GARY ACQUISTAPACE, visited Alaska this year and returned to give an interesting travelogue at the July meeting. Particular interest was evident in the 13-inch (high, not diameter) hamburger which he claimed to have eaten. Other recent programs include May's "My Most Memorable Coin" and June's Other Hobbies Night."

ONCE MORE, MICHAEL...

The *San Francisco Coin Club* held a two-part "Discussion and Participation" program during June and July. This was a very active and enjoyable program last summer and again this year. Much credit goes to MICHAEL TURRINI who moderated these exciting and interesting programs.

YES, BUT WHAT DOES SHE COLLECT???

The *Sacramento Valley Coin Club* awarded membership to its youngest member, 3 week old KATHRYN ANNE BANDY. Proud parents are BOB and PATTI BANDY, who are said to be now trading in their Mexican coin books on the latest baby care books. Congratulations Patti and Bob!!

Also congratulations to SVCC newsletter editor BOB DE CESARIS. Their newsletter won a second place in the local category of the ANA's 1994 Club Publications Contest. The award is well deserved.

WE'RE ON THE MOVE...AGAIN!

The *Peninsula Coin Club* will again have a new location for their Annual Coin and Collectibles Show. The November 13th show will be at the Palo Alto Elks Lodge at 4249 El Camino Real, Palo Alto across the street from last year's location.

WHO'S GOT THE BREW???

The *Fremont Coin Club* "Other Hobbies Night" brought out a wide range of hobbies-- old padlocks, books about the brain, Superman comics, a Hank Aaron autographed baseball, old postage stamps, duck decoys, pocket knives, military patches, and one wine connoisseur (who brought samples her latest "brew" of Pineapple wine). Other speakers: CHUCK WHITE on "Odd and Curious Money of Siam", GENE COOK on "Locks", and DAVID LANGE on "Mercury Dimes".

SHOULDN'T THAT BE "GO WEST YOUNG MAN"???

Diablo Numismatic Society's editor STUART HUCKABY made a career change and went EAST!. Without a permanent editor, president MICHAEL TURRINI is filling in and will be publishing the Diablo Die Break every month for the rest of 1994. I will miss Stuart's "Giants" comments. The show goes on at Diablo with "Numismatic Specialty" night held in June, a picnic in July, and a Coin Quiz in August. A coin grading workshop is scheduled for September.

WAS IT A SLAM DUNK?

Livermore Valley Coin Club had a potluck dinner in June and held its ever-popular "Slab-Toss" for after-dinner entertainment. No word was received on who had the best "wrist action."

VARIETY IS THE SPICE ...

A variety of topics were shown at recent *San Jose Coin Club* meetings. ED SINS gave a talk entitled "Pillars and Portraits" which covered Mexican Half-Real coins. A special World War II Memorabilia night was held in June and "Other Hobbies" night was the theme of July's meeting. Casino glass, pre-Colombian artifacts, toy trains, and fossils were some of the interesting "other" hobby stuff displayed and explained.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Displaying the same enthusiasm shown during National Coin Week, the members of the *Redwood Empire Coin Club* are busy working on their 1995 Coin Show to be held on March 25 & 26. STEVE TITMUS is the new Publicity Chairman. Steve reported on the ANA Convention the he and son MATT attended with LEE and DEVIN GONG. Matt and Devin served as ANA pages. Steve said that it was a "world class" event, non-stop for four days and encourage everyone to attend the next one in Anaheim in August 1995. Lee will be showing slides in September.

RAILROAD WHAT???

The *Pacific Coast Numismatic Society* was entertained by member JERRY SCHIMMEL with his "Tokens of San Francisco's Waterfront" talk, another segment of his multi-part presentation on The City's tokens. Another member, DON THRALL, spoke in July on "Numismatic Railroadiana." HERB MILES was featured at the August meeting with "Medallic Portraits of Black Americans."

Former PCNS President LARRY REPPETEAU has joined the ranks of the PCNS elite, having been recognized by the membership for his unceasing and diligent

involvement with the society by unanimous vote as a Fellow of the Society. Congratulations, Larry.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN...

REGAN SHEA, of the *Liberty Numismatic Society* was May's featured speaker. He entertained and informed the club on many aspects of the Oregon Trail and the half-dollars struck to commemorate that phenomenon. "Priam's Treasure", the story of Heinrich Schlemm and his discovery of the city of Troy was PETER COLLIANDER's fascinating tale of treasure found, love, and smuggling told at the July meeting.

EAGLES FOR SALE..

The *Vallejo Numismatic Society* announced that it is continuing its series of A & Eagle" logo silver rounds. Together with the Fairfield Coin Club, the VNS will issue a second series of silver rounds featuring the Anheuser-Busch logo. JAN HENKE is the man to contact at P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533.

SUPER JOB, MERCED!!!!

The *Gateway Coin Club* of Merced has added thirty (that's 30) new members this year and has surpassed its goal of 100 in '94. CECIL BURTON became the 100th paid-up member at the club's June meeting. President LILA ANDERSON said "Everyone pitched in to accomplish this goal..." Congratulations!!

The Gateway Club 20th Annual Coin Show at the Merced Mall in June was a success. Winning exhibits were: Best of Show, RON LUND's "The U.S. Nickel"; First Place, SEAN MOFFATT's "Hoffman, and Hoffman Mint Mistakes"; and Second Place, JOEL ANDERSON's "Some Unusual Money". The Junior Award went to GRACE ANDERSON for her "My Favorite Money" display.

Special recognition was given to John Hoffman who assembled two displays to attract new collectors -- "Why Not Collect Something" and "What Does it Cost to Collect Something?"



SOUTH of the TEHACHAPIS

By: Harold Katzman

NIXON'S LEGACY

The June Meeting of the *Culver City Coin Club* had JERRY YAHALOM talk about "Coins of Palestine". Jerry has quite a collection of the coins and currency of Israel. July saw DR. WALTER OSTROMECKI talk about "Nixon's Numismatic Legacy". Did you know that the Eisenhower dollar, the \$2 bill, and the ban on

ownership of gold all began, resumed, and ended, respectively, during his administration? And who could forget the sale of the Carson City Dollars, each packaged with its own message from Mr. Nixon? The “under-the-weather” list included KAY NORHAM, and PAUL BORACK. Paul was out with a broken wrist. Ouch! ‘Hope everyone is back to 100% now! JOHN SHERMAN told about “Buying and Selling US. Coins at the August meeting. John’s collecting specialty is pre-1954 US. commemoratives.

SALUTING W.W.II VETERANS

HANS and BEATE RAUCH were the featured speakers at the *Bay Cities Coin Club* for June. They introduced a new program titled “Treasures of the British Museum.” For the 50th anniversary of the D-Day Invasion the club recognized and honored those club members who are W.W.II veterans; ALEX LAPES, PAUL BORACK, HANS RAUCH, HARRY REDER, GEORGE RUSSELL, and SID JACKSON. July’s program was a pot-luck with members bringing their favorite dishes as well as their favorite numismatic items to talk about. The August meeting was canceled due to most of the members attending the CES show the same day.

DR. LARGE CENT?

The *Covina Coin Club* welcomed G. LEE KUNTZ to its June meeting. Lee spoke on his favorite subject, “Early American Large Cents.” In July, DR. WALTER OSTROMECKI presented a program entitled “Those Incredible Two-Dollar Bills.” In August RALPH MARX came all the way from Canoga Park to give “An Introduction to Collecting Byzantine Coins.”

THE BIRTH OF COIN WORLD

The May meeting of the *Downey Numismatists* had PHIL IVERSEN talking about “The Birth of Coin World”. He told about the first year the newspaper hit the stands and its impact on our numismatic lives. This publication was a breakthrough in the coin collecting world. June had EUNICE ALTER, current president of SPAN talk about “Autographed PNC’s”. Her hand painted PNC’s are truly works of art!

ARE THERE TWO DOCTORS IN THE HOUSE?

The June meeting of the *Fontana United Numismatists* saw BOB McCARTHY present a program on “The Mint Process: How the Mint Makes Coins.” Bob reviewed the many steps it takes to produce a coin. July saw DR. THOMAS FITZGERALD speak on “Fractional Currency”. Dr. Fitzgerald has one of the very few in existence fractional shields. The August meeting saw another doctor, DR. WALTER OSTROMECKI, speak on “Numismatic Writing.” Walter is the current acting editor of the NASC “quarterly”. Walter has authored countless numismatic articles for several publications.

FROM PRESIDENTS TO INDIANS

The *Garden Grove Coin Club* had “Other Hobbies Night” in June. July saw JOE BOCKHOLD talking on the “US. Mint and Assay Office.” August featured EUNICE ALTER with a wonderful program on PNC’s entitled “Presidents to Indians”.

HEMET MOVES ...

The *Hemet Numismatist* is now meeting at Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue at noon the third Wednesday of each month. The June meeting featured the annual “Buy, Sell, Trade” meeting. Lots of “gems” found new homes. The club

extended Get Well wishes to members NORMA COLLINS, ROBERT SAUNDERS, and ROBERT HODGES. In July the club came of age, celebrating its 21st birthday. In July of 1983 eight or ten (no one remembers, it was so long ago!) met in the Hemet Public Library to form the club. Everyone was asked to bring an error coin or two to discuss. In attendance at this "Coming of Age" was the club's first president HELEN TRUMPOWER. August had BETTY JO DUNHAM of the San Jacinto Museum tell about the famous Estudillo House. This house, built in 1881, is one of the oldest still standing in the San Jacinto Valley. Vice president JIM 'TEX' RITTER has recently had cataract surgery. The club (and all of CSNA) wish him a speedy recovery.

INSLA IMPROVISES ..

"Israel Numismatics and the Revisionists" was the topic of speaker JOEL FORMAN at the June meeting of the *Israel Numismatic Society of Los Angeles*. Mr. Forman is the numismatic consultant to the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The July program presenter had scheduling difficulties and had to miss the meeting, so the club held a discussion on the numismatics of Israel and the hobby in general. The scheduled speaker, JOHN MILES BAKER, founder of the 99 Company and the originator of the Philatelic-Numismatic Cover. Mr. Baker was able to appear in August and delivered an exceptional program, appreciated by all. Two club members are recent recipients of high honors from the ANA. Assistant Director Paul Borack has been recognized by the ANA as the Outstanding Club representative for 1994 (second time!) and Alex Shagin has received the Presidential Award for his contributions of his medallic art to the ANA. (*See article in this edition on Mr. Shagin. --ed.*) The club extends its deepest sympathy to LIL JANKO on the passing of her husband JOSEPH, and mourns the demise of member HENRY GETZ on August 4th.

O. J. SIMPSON IMPACTS CLUB'S DOOR PRIZES?

The June meeting of the *Litton Coin Club* had AL ROWAN in to talk about "Pre-Columbian Indian Artifacts and Related Modern Gold Coins". According to the July bulletin, due to the O. J. Simpson affair, PHIL IVERSEN forgot the raffle coins for the June meeting. What does O.J. have to do with the Litton Coin Club? We're all waiting for the answer, Phil, and it had better stand up in court! In August, Phil gave his ever popular "Coin Grading Clinic" (and Memory Improvement Course?)

DEEP SEA FISHING?

"Confederate Coins and Currency" was the title of ARNOLD COWAN's program for the June meeting of the *Long Beach Coin Club*. Arnold shared with the club how Confederate coins, currency and bonds helped underwrite the South's cost of the Civil War. Club member ED CASAUS told of his experience in attending the burial of Richard Nixon on April 27. Junior member NATHANIEL UNRATH was awarded an ANA scholarship to attend the ANA's 26th annual summer conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Nathaniel wrote an essay on the US silver three-cent piece to win the scholarship. SALLY MARX spoke to the club about the similarities between the independence won by the United States and by Israel at the July 4th meeting.

Member KEN HUNT recently returned from a month long fishing trip. Ken was treasure hunting in the South China Sea for treasures on the US. Ontario which sank on January 4, 1799. A cannon and many porcelain pieces were recovered. A second trip is planned in an effort to recover the valuable Kan Lung porcelain from the Cing

Dynasty that was aboard the Ontario when it went down. We look forward to hearing more about this trip! August's meeting consisted of an old fashioned barbecue and a "White Elephant" sale.

AHOY, MATES! PIRATES OFF THE PORT BOW!

The *L.A. Coin Club's* June meeting had their junior numismatist, Zeve Akerling, appear in full pirate garb to talk about "Pirate Money." This was his second attempt to visit to the club -- on his first visit, it seems he got lost and missed the meeting. Zeve's program was original, entertaining, and very well done, according to eye witnesses. On a more somber note, long time member BERT SNOW passed away in June. It was a shock to all. Bert had recently been named a Noble by Temple El Zariba of the Shriners. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Bert's family and friends. The July program had JERRY YAHALOM conducting the Coin-O. August featured DR. WALTER OSTROMECKI with his program on "Nixon's Numismatic Legacy." The LACC also mourns the death on August 4th of member HENRY GETZ, from a stroke suffered July 28th.

GWEN BUFFALOES ORANGE COAST

The *Orange Coast Coin Club* had BILL GRANT in June discussing the "Numismatic World of Lindbergh." Bill had a large exhibit of Lindbergh material on display. July saw GWEN HEISTAND present a program on "The Role of the American Buffalo in the Lives and Legacy of the Tribes of the American Indian, and Its Use on Currency and Coins." (*This program title is the official winner of the unofficial award for longest program title in this issue, - ed.*) August had RANDY BRIGGS coming all the way from San Bernardino to talk on "Gun Money of Ireland."

THE RIVER RAN RED

The June meeting of the *San Bernardino County Coin Club* saw long-distance traveler RALPH MARX from Change Park talk on "Travelers' Checks." Ralph has T-checks from all over the world. Very little, if anything, has been written on the subject and, as Ralph relates, "This is virgin territory." In July DR. SHELBY WAGNER spoke on "The River Ran Red -- the Story of Antietam and Its Commemorative." The battle at Antietam was the bloodiest of the Civil War. Club vice president TERRY ESCHELMAN passed away of heart failure. Condolences are extended to his wife and three children. He was a true friend to all who knew him. NORM CHRZANOWSKI has consented to fill the large vacancy in the vice presidency left by Terry's passing. The August meeting was "Other Hobbies" night.

30 YEARS AND A MILLION WORDS. . .

The June meeting of the *San Diego Numismatic Society* saw ED WHEELER, president of the Oceanside / Carlsbad Coin Club, present a slide program on Somalia. Ed spent several months in Somalia as part of his Marine activity. The June bulletin marks 30 years of editorship under DOROTHY BABER. That translates into 360 issues and at least a million printed words. WOW!!! July had ROGER SULLIVAN give a program on "Military Medals" The club's Coin-A-Rama was July 9 and 10.

BROWN BAGGING IT

The *Santa Barbara Coin Club* has its "Brown Bag Auction" in June. What is a brown bag auction, you ask? Well, you take 20 brown bags and fill them with coins

of at least \$10 value. You then auction the bags. One of the bags contained a Two Peso piece. Another contained an 1899-S \$5 gold piece. Who was the lucky winner of that prize and what was the winning bid? Stay tuned, the reports are still coming in.

"BEST FINDS"

Verdugo Hills Coin Club had "Best Finds" as the program in June. Club members were asked to bring in their best finds from circulation and share the story of their find. In August DR. TOM FITZGERALD presented "The Bicentennial of the US Large Cent." Tom had an exhibit of some of these rare large cents. The sick list included JOHN HOFMAN and DORIS FULLER. A special "Thanks!" to former club member JEANNE KIEHL for donating many books and catalogs to the club. DON KUBOTA give a program on "Counterfeit Detection and Authentication" in August. Don is a full-time dealer and is authorized by PCGS and ANACS.

THE DOUBLE EAGLE AND THE MORMONS

WILLIAM WISSLEAD presented "Overview of the Double Eagle" at the June meeting of the *West Valley Coin Club*. Bill informed the group that the Mormons in the 1700 's were the first to use that particular denomination. The club is mourning the loss of president BERT SNOW who passed away unexpectedly the last day of June. The club noted that "Bert had the capacity to become involved with a great many fraternities, associations, and clubs." He will be missed by all who knew him. PHIL IVERSEN presented the July program on "The Do's and Don'ts of Coin Collecting."

AN ATOMIC TIME

DR. THOMAS FITZGERALD presented the June program for the *Upland Coin Club*. His subject -- "The Bicentennial of the American Crown." And did you know that June was National Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Month? And July is National Ice Cream Month! Well, that's what editor ETHEL LENHERT noted in both those Bulletins. So, now you know. In July ANGUS BRUCE gave an excellent program called "Operation Crossroads." This slide program dealt with an explosive issue -- the atomic testing on Bikini Atoll. (Hardly anything is left of Bikini at all!) Angus showed the club some paper money issued during these tests. Club member G. LEE KUNTZ (and our medal producer) had triple-bypass surgery in July. He was back in action at the August meeting. What powers of recovery! In August the club celebrated its birthday with a potluck dinner. AL HALL conducted Coin-O. President BILL WISSLEAD won the Two-Peso gold coin.

DR. TOM, AGAIN!

The popular and omnipresent (how can he be in so many places seemingly at once?) DR. THOMAS FITZGERALD presented his "Bicentennial of the First US Crown" at the June meeting of the *Whittier Coin Club*. In July JOHN COLL told the story of the club's history. John was one of the founding members. The club will celebrate its 35th birthday with a huge party in September.



1946 IOWA STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE HALF DOLLAR



Part 19

The Lawrence Brothers: Colossal Conceit

BY Michael S. Turrini, CSNA L-30-02

Dedication: This nineteenth article, in esteem and deference, is dedicated to Mr. R. Joseph Bleau, Professional Engineer, who has recently relocated from California to the state of Washington. "Joe" Bleau (pronounced "blow") has been a kind and considerate friend to this writer, tolerating his own eccentricities and irritations.

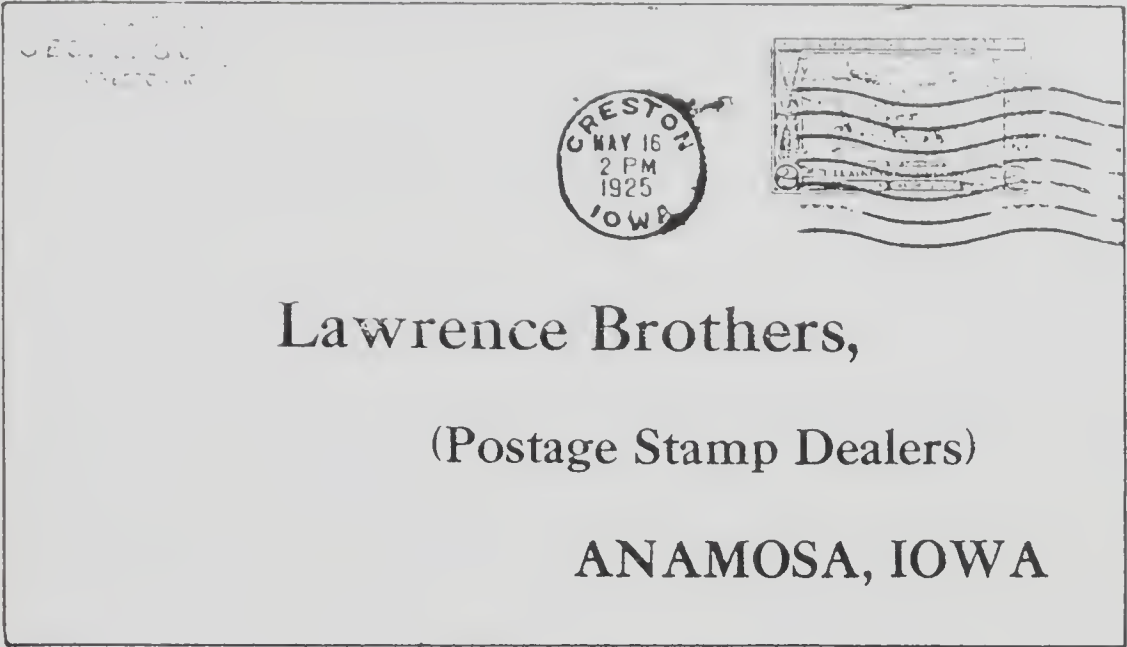
Prolonging this series on the Lawrence Brothers would be most appropriate for those now deceased twin brothers--Ray L. (1904-1968) and Roy C. (1904a1983) assuredly had an overlooked influence and impact upon the emerging coin hobby of the 1940's and 1950s. Their tabloids--The Philatelic Press and The Coin Collector--and their merchandising of coins were precursors of the decades to follow; however, notwithstanding that Q. David Bowers, respected numismatic dealer plus scholar, referred to them as "spaceshots" and noted that "they engaged in many mail order activities which today would be called downright illegal",¹ this entire series, regretfully, is not the suitable venue for a full biographical study and scholarly review of Ray L. and Roy C. Lawrence, both of Anamosa, Iowa.

Thus, this present article is intended to append the immediate prior articles in this series, the Lawrence Brothers, with additional facts and to conclude the brothers as to their involvement, as has been read in this series, which was negative, irritating, and disruptive, with the saga of the 1946 Iowa Statehood Centennial Commemorative Half Dollar.

For us as coin hobbyists and for their initial decades of their five decades as dealers, it is easy to overlook that the Lawrence Brothers began as stamp dealers, and during the 1920's and 30's and until the end of the Second World War, stamps were their sole business.² Larry Adams of Boone, Iowa, located the cover depicted in figure #1. As can be seen, the brothers were so well-known, or Anamosa so small, that the address was simply 'Lawrence Brothers, Anamosa, Iowa'. To those interested in philately, the First Class Mail Rate was 2¢, and the stamp was a 1925 Scotts #618 carmine Lexington-Concord Sesquicentennial Commemorative Issue.

The Lawrence Brothers did attend stamp shows, and Figure #2 shows them posed at a show in New York City, sometime during the 1940s. This photograph was published in their May 5, 1947 issue of The Philatelic Press. The incongruity of this photograph is that the frugal and unscrupulous Twins would reuse it and subtitle the caption as to whatever date and site they desired. In fact, in the column directly above this photograph in the May 7, 1947 issue was a short notation reporting "the Lawrence Bros. will be at the Cornish Arms Hotel for the big precancel show and

bourse held in that hotel."³ How could they be photographed at a show before it happens? Only these Twins could devise a means.



Figures 1 and 2

Regressing, even a cursory reading of this particular issue will clearly show that by 1947 the Brothers were in transition to coins along with stamp sales and solicitations.⁴ It was also heeded in this issue that the Brothers "will be bringing a few of the rare Iowa Centennial 50-cent coins with them" to the Cornish Arms Hotel. Published mail order price was \$3.25 each.

In the seventeenth (17th) article (CalCoin News, Spring 1994) the Lawrence Brothers correspondence with the State Treasurer and the Iowa Centennial Committee, in all its belligerence and annoyance, was condensed;⁵ however, thanks to increased research in July 1993, done after the seventeenth (17th) article had been submitted, there was discovered much earlier provocative correspondence.

Their earliest correspondence was dated August 1946, maybe days after President Harry Truman signed Public Law 612, the legislation authorizing this commemorative half dollar. Their initial letter has not been located or has been long lost, yet in the archives of the State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines,⁶ and stapled together, was the brothers' incipient letter to the Iowa Centennial Committee.

Their letter was answered on September 7, 1946 by ever-loyal and devoted Edith Wasson McElroy (1887-1975), who served as the energetic Executive Secretary of the Iowa Centennial Committee. She stated that "your name is being placed in the file" and that "we are returning your check for \$21.00".⁷ As was typical, the Brothers had attempted to get a discount price!

In what would be the start of a long, aggravating, and obnoxious exchange, the Brothers wrote again using a postal card on November 11, 1946, candidly stating "We may appear a bit impatient, but our business is selling stamps and coins".⁸ Needless to say, Mrs. McElroy graciously and stoically replied on November 16th that "We have no further information regarding the Iowa Centennial Memorial Fifty-Cent piece".⁹

This author believes that Mrs. McElroy, ever diligent and possibly aware that the Lawrence Brothers would not cease, stopped all the aforementioned correspondence, originals and copies, stapled them together and filed same for further action. As has been described in earlier articles, "action" it would be.¹⁰

Getting back to the twins, this author sought to learn about their possible organized hobby memberships and activities. In checking the American Philatelic Society (APS), State College, Pennsylvania¹¹ and the American Numismatic Association (ANA), Colorado Springs, Colorado, the only recorded membership was for Ray L. Lawrence as Member #4684 of the ANA. He joined on March 1, 1935 and listed his occupation as a dealer of coins and stamps. What is salient is that he remained a member for but one year! Nothing was listed for his brother, Roy C. In researching via the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) of State college Pennsylvania an article by well-known philatelic scholar and author Herman 'Pat' Herst, Jr., in Volume XLI, Number 1 (1992) of Philatelic Literature Review provides maybe the only detailed, if short, published biography of these brothers written by one who actually knew the them.

Mr. Herst began by stating quite bluntly that "colossal conceit was one the twins' attributes. They were completely convinced that in whatever hobby activity they engaged, no one had ever exceeded them in success and ability."¹² Strong words, but correct.

Being an established philatelic writer, Mr. Herst's exemplary endeavor emphasizes the-brothers stamp business, particularly their dealing in precancels, which an old

unsubstantiated but professed true rumor is that one brother served time in a federal-prison for counterfeiting precancels.

The brothers' verbose pronouncements and their clamorous claim of superiority over others in precancels ignited one of their contemporary philatelic competitors to actively seek the twins' expulsion from the Rotary Club, calling them the "Louse Brothers" for their practices and pronouncements.¹³

Continuing, the brothers, who would when together always act and speak in tandem were quite incisive that one brother, Ray C., worked with the Internal Revenue Service, and Q. David Bowers reminisced that such rejoinder, often repeated, would instill doubt and fear in those dealing with these brothers.

Their frugality was legendary. In a trip in 1940 to California in anticipation of relocation to the Golden State, and later for several years to Arizona for the winters, "they would drive out, stopping along the way to visit customers and accepting hospitality as though it were merited."¹⁴ In fact, the Brothers claimed in their travels that they would "always find customers who are happy to put us up overnight."¹⁵

Being conceited convinced of their preeminence, the Brothers relished conversing about their competitors, always championing their superiority. Several contemporaries remembered in these conversations that the brothers, when together, spoke and followed each others conversation and thought without break nor pause.

If one word best characterizes the twins, Mr. Herst wrote, it was 'eccentric'.. For example, he noted, one hobbyist went to the Brothers to purchase Twenty Dollar Double Eagles at their home and was shocked to be handed a full tray taken from the refrigerator!

Mr. Herst also learned that Roy became interested, at some point in time, in the stock market and was equally rigorous about his speculations in securities, even prophesying in their periodicals!

Roy was quite frank in his remembrance to Mr. Herst: "The profits from stamps are in pennies, but in coins it can be big dollars."¹⁶

With all their miserliness and with all their pretensions of huge fortunes in stocks -- Roy once stated that he had "made so much money on those stocks that I would need a forklift to pick it up"¹⁷-- whatever happen to the childless twins' wealth?

The sixteenth (15th) article, CalCoin News ,Winter 1994, summarizes the demise of the twins, and their generous bequest to their hometown of Anamosa, Iowa, but there was more. The last surviving twin, Roy, left an estate in excess of a million dollars.

Among his bequests were establishment of accounts for Roy's two cats, Chan and Fuzzy-Wuzzy, at \$500.00 each; a thousand dollars to provide his grave with fresh flowers for twenty years; \$25,000 to each of four relatives of his wife, Marion; and to Anamosa High school an endowment for an annual stamp and coin contest.

As reported in the sixteenth (16th) article, the largest chunk of his estate went to the construction of a community center and to prevent any error as to the center's benefactor, his will specified it was to be named the Ray, Roy, and Marion Community Center and was to be designated so in one-foot high letters.¹⁸

This author is very sure that much, much more could be written about the twin entrepreneurs. Herst's endeavor recognizes, long overdue, the twins' impact on both hobbies, stamps and coins, much of it not so kindly accepted nor remembered.

This author's objective has been biographical as much as it has been to chart the brothers' involvement, and its irritations, with the 1946 Iowa Centennial Commemorative Half Dollar. Remember, Mr. Herst noted the brother's conceit, and

center's benefactor, his will specified it was to be named the Ray, Roy, and Marion Community Center and was to be designated so in foot-high letters.¹⁸

This author is very sure that much, much more could be written about the twin entrepreneurs. Herst's endeavor recognizes, long overdue, the twins' impact on two hobbies, much of it not so kindly accepted nor remembered.

This author's objective has been biographical as much as it has been to chart the brothers' involvement, and its irritations, with the 1946 Iowa Centennial Commemorative Half Dollar. Remember, Mr. Herst noted the brother's conceit, and readers of the early articles of this series will recall the Brother's affirmation to have "handled hundreds of Iowa Half Dollars", while still shuffling heated letters with the State Treasurer, Iowa Centennial Committee, or anyone to procure the Half Dollars as cheaply as possible.¹⁹

Both Roy and Ray are long gone, and only a few may now remember them, with those remembrances less than desirable. However, this author is confident their presence in the hobby through five decades, radiated color and contention.

Who would ever place an order demanding their own conditions and threatening the consequence of voting for a deceased President?²⁰ Only those twins from Anamosa -- native Iowans and lifelong Republicans", Ray L. and Roy C. Lawrence.

.....
FOOTNOTES

1. Q. David Bowers letter to this author, August 24, 1993.
2. Readers are welcomed to reread past articles from CalCoin News, Winter '94 forward.
3. The Philaelic Press, May 5, 1947.
4. 16th article, CalCoin News, Winter 1994.
5. 17th article stated brothers dropped stamps and changed to coins exclusively immediately post-war. This has been discovered to have been an erroneous assumption.
6. As discussed in 18th article, CalCoin News Summer '94, letters are cited as "Governors Office, Centennial Commission, Gov. Blue, Boxes 1304 & 1305. These boxes are more extensive than cited in Evan's records at Univ. Iowa, Iowa City.
7. Edith Wasson McElroy, letter of Sept. 7, 1946.
8. Lawrence Bros. postcard, Nov.11, 1946
9. Edith Wasson McElroy, letter Nov. 6, 1946
10. Reflective of Ms. Watson's attention to detail and devotion to the Committee's objective.
11. American Philatelic Library is affiliated with American Philatelic Society. Author acknowledges and herein expresses deep gratitude for the library's assistance
12. Herman "Pat" Herst, Jr., "remembering an Eccentric Pair from Anamosa, Iowa," Philatelic Literature Review, Vol. XLI, No.1., pp 27-33.
13. Ibid. p.29
14. Ibid. p30
- 15.. Ibid.
16. Ibid. p.29
- 17 Ibid. p.31
- 18 ..Ibid. p32
19. Readers are referred to earlier articles in series.
- 20...Franklin D. Roosevelt

BIBLIOGRAPHY
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CSNA ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS FOR THE 1995-97 TERM

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE DR. THOMAS FITZGERALD, CHAIRMAN

The time has again come for the election of new Association officers. The Nominating Committee presents the carefully considered nominations which follow. Other nominations will be accepted from the floor during the General Membership meeting at the Golden State Coin Show. The meeting commences at 8:30 AM, Saturday, October 1, 1994.

Paid-up members will receive ballots by mail following the close of nominations.

PRESIDENT

Phil Iversen, Sherman Oaks, CA

Mr. Iversen has served as officer in many Southern California numismatic organizations including the Bay Cities Coin Club, Litton Coin Club, San Gabriel Valley Coin Club, and Society of International Numismatics. He is a Past President of California Exonumist Society., was General Chairman of the 1978 CSNA Convention, and has served on the CSNA Board for a several years. He serves now on the Golden State Coin Show Committee. His exhibits at state, regional, and local shows earn top awards consistently.

VICE PRESIDENT

Joel Anderson, Merced, CA

Mr. Anderson began collecting coins at the age of 8 years, and began dealing in coins by mail while in high school. Joel earned a Master of Business Administration at the Amos Tuck School of Dartmouth College and pursued a career in Management Accounting for several years before deciding to become a full time numismatic dealer. He is President of the 100-member Gateway Coin Club of Merced and is Coordinator for the ANA's Young Numismatists program. Mr. Anderson currently serves on the CSNA Board.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Joyce Kuntz, Claremont, CA

Mrs. Kuntz is currently the Convention Meals Coordinator of the CSNA, and holds a Life Membership in the association. Her collecting interests are Early American Coppers and paper money, and she is active in several local and national clubs.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Ethel Lenhert, Upland, CA

Mrs. Lenhert served as CSNA's Corresponding Secretary for ten years before taking a one-term respite. She hold memberships in many inland California coin clubs (Upland, Covina, San Bernardino, Fontana) and has held office in several. Her numismatic specialty is in Thomas Jefferson related numismatica. Her exhibits at state and regional shows have won many awards, including a Best of Show. She has served CSNA as Banquet Chairman for all of the CSNA shows.

TREASURER

Kay Lenker, San Diego, CA

Mrs. Lenker has held office as CSNA Treasurer for eight years., and serves as Custodian for the Audio/Visual Program. She is an Accredited Judge for the ANA. Her exhibits have been seen at state, regional and local shows. Her objectives as Treasurer have been to seek ways to increase the assets of the CSNA by prudent investment of monies from the Memorial Fund and the Life Membership accounts, while working to protect assets by minimizing costs. and expenditures.

DIRECTORS,

NORTH OF THE TEHACHAPIS (*Three to be selected*)

Gordon Donnell, Berkeley, CA

Mr. Donnell is currently a member of 18 local numismatic organizations, three out-of state clubs, and 11 exonomic associations. He serves ANA as District Delegate and is a recent recipient of the ANA's Presidential Award. He is at present Vice President of both the San Francisco Coin Club and the Northern California Numismatic Association. He is on the Board of Governors of the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society and the Diablo Numismatic Society. Mr. Donnell's principal collecting interests are "Woods".

Dale Hewlett, Fresno, CA

Mr. Hewlett is currently a member of NEA, CSNA, Liberty Seated Coin Club, Visalia Coin Club, and the Fresno Numismatic Society. He has served as CSNA Curator and has held a number of elective offices in the Fresno club. He now serves on the Fresno club's Board of Governors, and regularly holds forth as Auctioneer at the monthly meetings. He has been collecting for over thirty years, and expresses a particular fondness for the Liberty Seated Half Dollar, in addition to which he collects in Type Set and Short Set formats.

Marian Sinton, Redwood City, CA

Serving at present on the CSNA Board, she is also Past President, Past Secretary and current Treasurer of the Liberty Numismatic Society. Additionally she holds memberships in the ANA, and the Pacific Coast Numismatic Society. At past CSNA conventions she has served as Luncheon Chairman and Exhibit Chairman. Her collecting interests are British hammered series, Ancient Greek and Roman coins, and US Error Coins.

Phil Solomon, Los Gatos, CA

Mr. Solomon is currently a Director of the CSNA, in which he has held membership for 20 years. He is founder, Board Member, President, and Life Member of the Cupertino Coin Club. He is also a Life Member of the San Jose Coin Club. His principal interests are on numismatic education, with an emphasis on education of the youth. Mr. Solomon has been collecting for 35 years.

Terry Woodward, Modesto, CA

Mr. Woodward, a professional numismatist, owns and operates S&T coins of Turlock, CA, and '04 Productions, an organizer of con shows. He began collecting in the mid-1950's and went into dealing in the 80's. His memberships include ANA, Gateway Coin Club of Merced, Delta Coin Club of Stockton, Livermore Valley Con Club, Sacramento Valley Coin Club, and Reno Coin Club. He claims Stanislaus

County Coin Club, Modesto, as his home club and has served as its President, Vice President, and Show/Bourse Chairman. US/Philippine coins of 1903-1945 are his favorites.

SOUTH OF THE TEHACHAPIS (*Five to be selected*)

Angus Bruce, Hemet, CA

Mr. Bruce is currently a member of the CSNA Board and serves additionally on the Boards of NASC, and the San Bernardino, Redlands, and Hemet clubs.. He is President or Past President of COIN, and the San Bernardino, Redlands, and Hemet Coin Clubs. He serves as Club Delegate to COIN, NASC, and the Golden State Coin Show., and as Librarian for the International Bank Note Society.

Charles Colver, Covina, CA

Mr. Colver is at present a Director o CSNA. He served as Secretary for 16 years and was CSNA President in 1983-85. Colver was the first individual to receive the Krause Publications "Numismatic Ambassador Award. He is currently in charge of the Medal Program for CSNA.

Don Foster, Arcadia, CA

Mr. Foster is a Member of the CSNA Board and President of the Upland Coin Club. He is a member of Covina Coin Club and Pomona Valley Coin Club. He served as Assistant Security Chairman for Numismatic Association of Southern California for several years. Foster is recognized for his art work and signage at coin shows.

William Grant, Patton, CA

Mr. Grant is currently President of NASC and CES, and Past President of COIN. He is a Past President of the San Bernardino Coin Club and is now a member of the CSNA Board of Directors. He has served CSNA as Bourse Chairman and is a certified ANA Judge. He participates in the exhibit segments of conventions, handles Audio/Visual services for the CSNA symposium, and is on the staff of Calcoin News. His collecting specialties are Apollo XI and Lindbergh memorabilia.

Harold Katzman, Tustin, CA

Mr. Katzman is currently on the Board of Directors of CSNA. He has served CSNA in past years as Publicity Chairman for two CSNA Conventions, and is an Assistant Editor of Calcoin News. He has served as Secretary, Vice President, and President of Pomona Valley Coin Club, and as Vice President and President of the Upland and Fontana clubs. He was Recording Secretary for NASC for seven years and is currently that organization's Corresponding Secretary. He chaired the NASC Educational Workshop for five years.

G. Lee Kuntz, Claremont, CA

Mr. Kuntz has served on the CSNA Board of Directors more than a decade, and was General Chairman of CSNA's 81st Convention. He is Past President of Los Angeles Coin Club and is an active member in a number of others. Mr. Kuntz owns Masterpiece Medallions and has produced medals for many West Coast coin clubs. He is the current supplier of Medallions for CSNA conventions. His collecting preference is Early American Large Cents.

GOLDEN STATE COIN SHOW

September 30 & October 1, 1994

The Golden State Coin Show is scheduled for September 30 and October 1, 1994 at the Airport Marina Hotel, located at 8601 Lincoln Boulevard (where it intersects with Manchester Blvd.) in Los Angeles. The event is co-sponsored by the California State Numismatic Association, Council of International Numismatics, Numismatic Association of Southern California, and Society for International Numismatics. Show hours are 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM both days.

General Chairman, Phil Iversen and his committee are planning to make this annual show as great as the four preceding ones. Coin dealers will have a generous variety of U.S... and foreign coins, currency, and exnumia to sell.

The CSNA medallion will feature an Imperial Mastodon and a Saber-toothed Tiger on its obverse, in commemoration of California's ice-age life. The La Brea Tar Pits, a famous Los Angeles feature, display rich deposits of fossilized Pleistocene life forms, and are a popular tourist attraction.

CSNA events include a luncheon on Friday afternoon, a Board meeting and meeting of the general membership on Saturday morning, and a banquet on Saturday night. A brief schedule of the events is printed below.

Additional meetings are scheduled by the California Exonumist Society, the Council of International Numismatics, and two ancient coin clubs.

A gold drawing will be held on Saturday, sponsored by the Numismatic Association of Southern California. There will be numerous exhibits to see in a specially reserved exhibition room, and the Awards Banquet will highlight close the show Saturday evening.

SCHEDULE OF CSNA ACTIVITIES:

Friday, Sept. 30, 1:00 PM: CSNA Luncheon, Garden Room

Hostess; Joyce Kuntz

Speaker; Dennis Allen, California's Pleistocene Period

Saturday, Oct. 1, 8:30 AM: CSNA Board Meeting, Marco Polo Room

Saturday, Oct. 1, 11:00 AM: CSNA General Membership Meeting

Saturday Oct. 1, 7:00 PM: CSNA Banquet & Awards Presentation,
American Celebration Room, tickets \$25.00

CALENDAR OF NUMISMATIC EVENTS

CALIFORNIA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION EVENTS

September 30-October 1, 1994

Golden State Coin Show, 94th CSNA Coin Show & Convention
Airport Marina Hotel, Los Angeles
General Chairman: Phil Iversen
P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

March 18, 1995

27th Annual Educational Symposium
Days Inn, Fullerton, CA
Chairman: Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald,
P.O. Box 4144, Covina, CA 91724

August 16-20, 1995

104th ANA Anniversary Convention
Anaheim, California
General Chairman: Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald,
P.O. Box 4144, Covina, CA 91724

CSNA MEMBER CLUB SHOWS

October 15-16, 1994

Delta Coin Club, 30th Annual Show
Eagles Hall, 492 Bourbon St., Stockton, CA
Info: Elden E. Enzminger,
P.O. Box 216, Victor, CA 95253
(209) 368-2048

October 29-30, 1994

Sacramento Valley Coin Club, Semi-Annual Coin-A-Rama
La Sierra Community Center, 5325 Engle Rd., Carmichael, CA
Info: Jeff & Cecilia Shevlin
P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 969-3308

November 6, 1994

Santa Cruz Coin Club Show
Holiday Inn, 611 Ocean Street
Info: Bo Borich
P. O. Box 268, Santa Cruz, CA
(408) 475-9198

November 13, 1994

Peninsula Coin Club & Collectibles Show
Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real
Info: Fred Van Den Haak
P.O. Box 60484, Palo Alto, CA 94306
(415) 493-8275

November 13, 1994

Heartland Coin Club Show
El Cajon Valley Masonic Temple, 695 Ballantyne Street
Info: Ken Stempien
P.O. Box 18331, El Cajon, CA 92022
(619) 442-7021

OTHER SHOWS OF INTEREST TO CSNA MEMBERS

October 6-9, 1994

Long Beach Numismatic & Philatelic Expo
Convention Center, 300 East Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA
Info: Samuel Lopresto
112 East Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90802
(310) 437-0819

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THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

June 1, 1994 through August 31, 1994

Awanda Ayers, Secretary

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*LOTSPEICH, Dennis, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, R-5675, sponsored by
Awanda Ayers*

LEWIS, Gary E., Cape Coral, FL, R-5676, sponsored by Tom Fitzgerald

REINSTATED:

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB, C-2510

GREEN, James A., R-4696

DECEASED:

APPELMAN, Dr. Norman I., R-2326

ESHELMAN, Terry, R-5569

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

<i>Members in Active File, August 18, 1994</i>	<i>859</i>
<i>New Members</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Reinstated</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Deceased</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Membership Total as of August 31, 1994</i>	<i>862</i>

*This month's membership report is filed by Ethel Lenhert on behalf of
Secretary Awanda Ayers*

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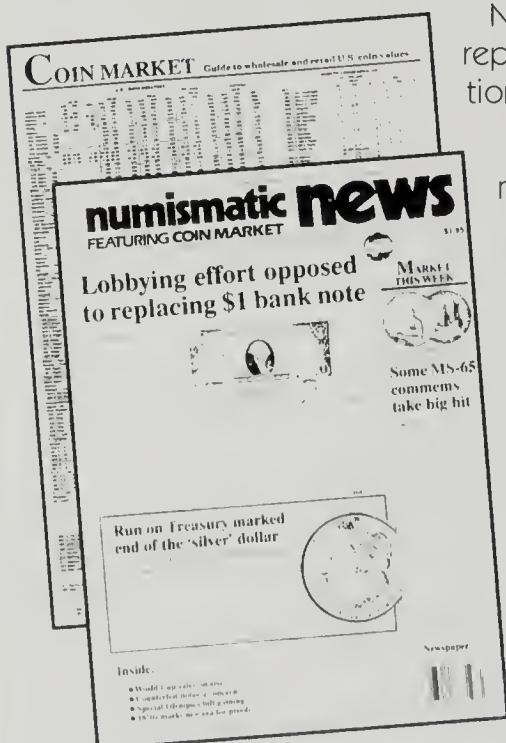
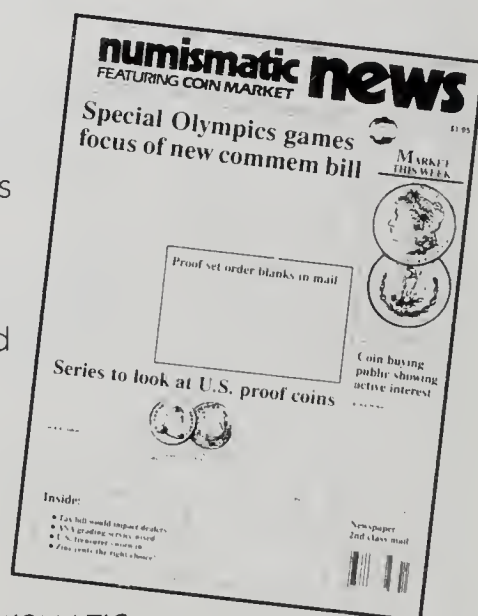
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